

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTIA 01240 232051Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 H-01 TRSE-00
OMB-01 IGA-02 HA-05 EB-08 AID-05 /089 W
-----004895 232104Z /72

P 232035Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8245
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 1240

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, MILI, AR, CI
SUBJ: SALE OF LOCKHEED TANKER AIRCRAFT TO ARGENTINA

REF: A. STATE 45444; B. BUENOS AIRES 1328

1. WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT GOC AND GOA NEGOTIATORS CAN IN FACT RESOLVE BEAGLE CHANNEL AND RELATED PROBLEMS. WITHOUT GOING AS FAR AS BUENOS AIRES PRESS IN IMPUTING BAD FAITH TO GOC (REFTEL B), THE PREDOMINANT VIEW HERE IS THAT TIME IS ON CHILE'S SIDE.
 2. THERE REMAINS SOME RISK THAT ARGENTINA MIGHT ATTEMPT TO ASSERT PHYSICAL CONTROL OVER ONE OR MORE OF THE DISPUTED ISLANDS. BUT IT HAS ALREADY DAMAGED ITS INTERNATIONAL STANDING BY DECLARING BINDING ARBITRATION NULL AND VOID AND WE DOUBT IT WOULD TAKE THE EVEN MORE SERIOUS STEP OF INVADING TERRITORY TO WHICH CHILE NOW HAS INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CLAIM.
 3. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT A SALE OF TANKER AIRCRAFT, WHICH COULD HAVE SOME UTILITY IN THE EVENT OF A CHILE/ARGENTINE CONFLICT, IS ON THE DOCKET AT THIS TIME. IT MAY BE VIEWED AS AN ADDITIONAL SIGNAL THAT THE USG IS NOT PARTICULARLY UPSET OVER THE GOA REJECTION OF BINDING ARBITRATION, AND THE CONSEQUENT SETBACK
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TO INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES.

4. AT MINIMUM WE BELIEVE NO ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN ON THIS PROPOSED SALE UNTIL 45 DAY INITIAL PERIOD OF BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS HAS BEEN COMPLETED (SANTIAGO 1166) AND BOTH GOVERNMENTS HAVE AGREED TO PROCEED WITH MORE SUBSTANTIVE SECOND STAGE.

LANDAU

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, AIRCRAFT, INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, WATER BOUNDARIES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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